

**In the Specification:**

Page 28, lines 9-18 rewrite as follows:

In this experiment the solvent and gas phase were removed from the vessel by vacuum. The vessel was cooled by microwave transparent air on the top and sides of the vessel ( $< 20^{\circ}\text{C}$  air) and the vaporized (~~SKIP?~~) acid and water removed in the gas stream. The trace element salts and molecules with low or no appreciable vapor pressure at low or laboratory temperature were not removed with the solvent. They remain in the solution volume and finally in the sample residue that is at a temperature of about ambient temperature. A comparative study of both hot-plate and microwave evaporation demonstrates the losses when convection and conduction are used in the traditional manner and how analytes are conserved in the microwave evaporation technique.